

CE Leaders Meet to Review Progress and Plan for the Future

As the United States' preparations for disarming Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction shifted into high gear, Air Force civil engineer leaders met at the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Tyndall Air Force Base, FL, in December 2002 to review progress and plan for the future.

The CAF Convenes

On Dec. 2, Brig Gen Patrick A. Burns, the Air Combat Command Civil Engineer, convened the Combat Air Forces Civil Engineer (A7) Council. The A7 Council is comprised of members from Air Combat Command, Pacific Air Forces, United States Air Forces in Europe, Air Force Space Command, Air Force Special Operations Command, Air Education and Training Command, Air Force Reserve Command, and Air National Guard. Members of

structure, the CAF civil engineers serve in an advisory capacity to the Air Force Civil Engineer Readiness Board and the Program Review Committee.

The CAF CE Council serves as the forum to introduce, review and discuss civil engineer topics of concern to the CAF, and to carry issues forward to decision-making organizations within the CE community. The Council focuses on CAF-specific topics, including the Expeditionary Air and Space Force; fielding forces; research, development, acquisition and system integration; readiness training; organization; manning; and employment concepts. After reviewing and approving the CAF CE A7 charter, the council received briefings on construction in Southwest Asia, a new Air Force Contract Augmentation Program solicitation, Air and



expeditionary combat support, Airborne RED HORSE, and several other civil engineer operational issues.

Senior Leaders Meeting

On Dec. 3, Maj Gen Earnest O. Robbins II, The Civil Engineer, convened a four-day meeting of Air Force civil engineer senior leaders at the Tyndall AFB Conference Center.

Following a welcome by Col Bruce R. Barthold, the AFCESA commander, Lt Gen Michael E. Zettler, the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics, presented the Air Force's expeditionary perspective. He urged participants to lead first and always think "expeditionary," take care of their people, and use the week to map out the way ahead. He observed that now is the time for "unconventional wisdom."

Following opening comments by Maj Gen Robbins and a review of CE worldwide action items, the senior leaders addressed a comprehensive list of topics, including current programs, enlisted issues, mid-level officer professional development, housing excellence, basing issues, the Military Construction Program, real property maintenance, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM lessons learned, expeditionary engineering and emergency services, environmental concerns, strategic sourcing and utilities privatization.

In addition, Mr. Nelson F. Gibbs, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Logistics and Environment, presented views from his office, and Maj Gen Carl A. Strock, Director of Military Programs, Army Corps of Engineers, gave his perspective on Army installation management. (Dr. Doug Merkle, HQ AFCESA)



Air Force civil engineering's senior leaders met in December to address the career field's hot topics.

AFCESA and HQ USAF/ILE's CE Readiness Division serve as advisors.

Since 1999, civil engineers from CAF MAJCOMs have met as a corporate body to address common concerns primarily related to "war fighting" issues. In a hierarchical

Space Expeditionary Force Cycle 4 status under the CSAF two-hit policy, a Force Module Framework for defining expeditionary capability, employment of the GeoBase/GeoReach system, operational concepts for an NBC environment,